

TOWNSEND HAS HARD BATTLE IN MICHIGAN

Ferris, Democratic Nominee, Regarded as Strong Vote Getter.

NEWBERRY MAIN ISSUE

Republicans Have Better Organization, but Factionalism Is Peril.

RADICALISM SUBMERGED

It Is Unable to Devise Attractive Program or Develop Good Leadership.

By LOUIS SEIBOLD.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD. DETROIT, Oct. 24.—There is now, as always, more factional insurgency than popular radicalism in the political situation in Michigan, and it will likewise affect the Republican rather than the Democratic chances in the pending contest. Radicalism exists to an uncertain degree, but it is submerged and not likely to find expression in the contests between the two major parties for the State ticket, one seat in the Senate and thirteen in the lower house of Congress.

The Republicans and Democrats therefore have the field to themselves. The Socialist vote will be comparatively negligible. This is because there is not available a leader to organize the independent Republican sentiment, which in the past has given its support to Theodore Roosevelt, Hiram Johnson and Democratic endorsement to Henry Ford in the nature of protests against reactionary influences that were in control.

Michigan voters are traditionally extreme in expressing their political emotions as a study of the record will disclose. They gave Mr. Roosevelt's "Progressive venture" the electoral vote of the State in 1912, and eight years later Mr. Harding 529,415 plurality. In between they deprived Mr. Ford of the Republican nomination for the Senate against Mr. Newberry by a few hundred votes only, an exhibition of discrimination which has caused a little scandal, but is responsible for all of the troubles that confront the Republican candidates in the present contest.

Newberry Is Paramount Issue.

While not a candidate, nor even a personal factor in the struggle between the two parties to-day, Mr. Newberry is none the less the paramount issue of the campaign. If Mr. Townsend the Republican nominee for the Senate, wins for the third time, it mainly will be because of his good sportsmanship in standing by his colleague. If he loses, the verdict of the voters will be against Mr. Newberry. For nowhere else in the country is opinion more definitely divided as to his moral right

to sit in the Senate than in his own State.

The most confirmed champion of Mr. Newberry and supporter of Mr. Townsend will not deny that the former is almost the sole fly in the Republican ointment. Also they will admit that in former Gov. Woodbridge N. Ferris, educator and philanthropist, the Democrats have nominated their best vote getter and aggressive campaigner.

The Democratic leaders assert that Mr. Ferris, who won two elections and ran 60,000 votes ahead of Mr. Coe, the Democratic Presidential candidate, two years ago, "is 100,000 votes stronger" than any other man they could have proposed. His chances for success seemingly depend on the election day temper of around 125,000 Republican voters, who rallied to the support of Herbert F. Baker, radical opponent of Mr. Townsend for the Republican nomination. Mr. Townsend won his last fight by about 60,000 votes, with the women voters left out. He will have to get many more of these voters, than now seems probable if he is to repeat his previous achievements.

Senate Contest Not Cut and Dried.

In other words, the contest for the second seat of Michigan in the Senate is no cut and dried affair. The Republicans have the better organization in the rural regions, with a population somewhere about 1,500,000. Their local machines in the urban sections, with a population of 2,300,000, are also better manned than those of their rivals.

Under normal conditions Mr. Townsend would win by more than 100,000—if Mr. Newberry were not a factor in the equation. You can find Republicans at Detroit who, while admitting that political habit, plus a superior organization, favors Mr. Townsend, will bet \$4 to \$5 that Mr. Ferris will be elected. They base their opinion on the opposition of independent Republican voters to Mr. Townsend on account of his championship of Mr. Newberry, the pronounced popular interest in the effective fight being made by Mr. Ferris and dissatisfaction with economic conditions, for which the Harding Administration and Republican Congress is correctly or erroneously held responsible.

The judgment of the Republican managers is just the reverse. They express complete confidence in the election of Mr. Townsend on the ground that the Newberry issue has spent its force and that the reaction will help Mr. Townsend. They are not at all concerned over the contest for the State and Congressional offices.

Gov. Groesbeck is conceded by some of the Democrats to have the better of the argument with Alva J. Cummings, Democratic Mayor of Lansing. The Governor is bearing the brunt of the battle for his party. He is the most positive figure in the contest, clear cut in his style of campaigning and courageously aggressive. He confines himself to State affairs and leaves the defense of Mr. Newberry to Mr. Townsend, who takes the position that the case of his colleague is a closed incident.

Ferris's Line of Attack.

Mr. Ferris naturally whines away at Mr. Newberry in every speech. He demands that Mr. Newberry take a hand in the campaign and defend himself, and charges that Mr. Townsend's interests are managed by the assassin who "put Mr. Newberry over." Up to date no definite charges have been made that the methods employed to nominate and elect Mr. Newberry figure in the Townsend campaign. If an unusual sum of money is being spent the effect of it is not perceptible to the casual eye.

The Republicans apparently have and are using more money than their rivals, but this is due to the fact that the latter cannot get as much. It is

not at all likely that there will be a recurrence of the scandal which followed the election of Mr. Newberry. The latter has been conspicuous by his absence in the present campaign, the party managers agreeing that he would prove an irritant rather than an asset.

Several other Republicans of more than local importance are also "out" of the Townsend fight—former Gov. Chase Osborn, the old Bull Moose; Representative Fordney, author of the new tariff bill, which is proving of questionable value as a vote maker; Representative Pat Kelly, who opposed Mr. Townsend in the primaries; ditto Mr. Baker.

Mr. Fordney, who is content to retire with his tariff bill (of which he seems to be proud), has not made any attempt to meet the effective attacks on his handiwork made by Mr. Ferris and the other Democratic candidates. Mr. Townsend when forced to discuss it says "It speaks for itself." The fact is that the average citizen of Michigan manifests only mild interest in the subject and seems to know very little about it. The lumber and more important business interests appear to act as a matter of Republican course.

Ship Subsidy Issue.

The ship subsidy is casually defended by the Republican candidates and attacked by the Democratic rivals without generating either lively interest or enthusiasm. The bonus is avoided by the Republicans and advocated by the Democrats mainly because the Republicans failed to put it through.

The Michigan farmer expressed dissatisfaction with existing economic conditions in common with those in all other sections of the country. He complains of high freight rates, sympathetically applauds the Democratic denunciation of the Esch-Cummings act, but is in doubt as to what the Democratic candidates can or will do about it. He blames the Harding Administration and Congress for most of his real and all of his imaginary troubles, but expressed sympathy for the admittedly difficult position of the President.

The question most frequently addressed by him to Democratic spokesmen is what they intend to do to correct evils which they agree exist. They are not impressed with the answers or are quite certain that political causes actually lie at the back of their troubles.

Radical groups among the industrial workers have many grievances, but are apparently unable to devise an attractive program or develop adequate leadership. The Socialists have candidates in the field from Senator down, but there is little popular interest in their activities, mainly because of generally satisfactory business conditions.

There is no lack of work, wages are in the main satisfactory and consequently there is no unusual amount of grumbling. The Red element in labor circles find it difficult to stir up discord, although the leaders of it continue to preach various forms of Socialism. Syndicalism and Sovietism to the scant audiences that attend their meetings. The Democratic managers declare they will elect at least three of the thirteen members of Congress, the Republicans concede them only one, in Detroit.

AL SMITH ATTACKS MILLER ON ECONOMY

Produces Complaint From Former Hospital Commissioner Higgins.

CONGESTION CHARGED

Governor Accused of Neglecting Insane Patients' Care and Comfort.

PARADE IN BINGHAMTON

Democratic Nominee Accuses Republican of Subserviency to Party Leaders.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD. BINGHAMTON, Oct. 24.—In a letter read from the platform of the high school here to-night by Alfred E. Smith, Democratic nominee for Governor, Gov. Miller was charged with "false economies" and "misleading statements."

It was a personal communication to Mr. Smith from Frederick A. Higgins, former State Hospital Commissioner, who was removed by the Governor in the first year of his administration after a dispute over appropriations for the State's institutions. It referred to statements the Governor has made from the stump as to what he has been doing for those institutions.

Before reading the letter Mr. Smith said: "I do not personally blame the Governor for these conditions. I do not believe he is personally conversant with the facts. He has taken somebody's word for it."

This letter from Higgins, who is a Republican, was reserved for Binghamton, because here is one of the largest State hospitals.

Demonstration for Smith.

Mr. Smith received one of the biggest demonstrations ever given to a Democratic candidate for Governor in this republic county of Broome. After a dinner by W. W. Farley, the county boss, there was a parade half a mile long.

Mr. Smith spoke in the high school, after former Assemblyman Arthur J. Ruess, Annie Mathews, Register of New York city, and Dr. Royal S. Copeland, nominee for United States Senator, made speeches.

After declaring that the people were making a close study of Gov. Miller's performances in Albany, Mr. Smith said the Governor had taken him to task for signing the income tax bill. If the Governor's point was well taken, the speaker asked, why did he continue all the taxes imposed by him (Smith) and at the same time add others to the burdens of the people?

"The people of the State will have difficulty in refraining from laughter," he added, "when they read of the Governor's remarks about patronage and the claims upon me by members of my party in view of his own record that he will never be able to explain."

"Assuming a high and lofty position, dictating and parading before the people of the State as a great independent in political thought, as well as political action, he has in reality been meekly subservient to the leaders of his party who demanded patronage as their share of his victory."

Mr. Smith repeated his charges about patronage to Ward, Reiner and Aldridge, who until the recent death of the last named were known as "The Republican Big Four."

The letter from Mr. Higgins, dated October 19, 1922, began: "My dear Gov. Smith: As a former member of the State Hospital Commission and one entirely familiar with the details of the needs of the State institutions charged with the care of our insane wards, Republican though I am, I cannot resist writing you this letter of commendation for the splendid work you are doing in exposing the false economies of the present State Administration, particularly in dealing with the insane."

Mr. Higgins went on to say that 40,000 insane patients were in hospitals meant to accommodate no more than 30,000 and that since the expiration of Smith's term of office their condition had "become more helpless than ever."

He made this declaration: "I desire to call your attention to the fact that at the present time there has been not only a radical reduction in the money appropriated for the maintenance, food and clothing of these helpless persons but that there has also been a considerable reduction in the ratio of the number of physicians to the patients and the number of ward employees and in the number of other general employees at these institutions."

Ratio in Pre-war Period.

"In the pre-war period the ratio of physicians to patients of our State hospitals was one physician to 137 patients. Immediately after the close of the war in 1920 there were 213 patients to each physician, and at the present time there is one physician to 225 patients."

"It had always been the object of the State Hospital Commission during my incumbency to increase the number of physicians so as to have one doctor to each 150 patients and have one employee to each eight patients. Through the long war period, when the demand for physicians abroad was pressing and when it was impossible to secure sufficient attendants, it was impossible, of course, to obtain the above ratio."

Mr. Higgins added: "No more misleading statement has been uttered by any public official in the State Capitol in years than that made by Gov. Miller when he said that the hospitals had at the present time a better ratio of physician to patient than it had in any ten years. His statement is most incorrect and misleading."

"The beds claimed to have been provided for the State hospitals by Gov. Miller were actually procured with appropriations made by you, Gov. Smith, and such betterments as have been secured in the State hospitals during the last three years are also due to your efforts."

Mr. Smith will speak in Elmira to-morrow night.

GLOVERSVILLE MAN SUICIDE.

GLOVERSVILLE, N. Y., Oct. 24.—Marvin Edick, 55, of this city, committed suicide to-day by throwing himself in front of an interurban car about three miles south of Johnstown. A note in his pocket said he intended to end his life and asked that no blame be placed upon the railroad.

HINTS MURPHY WAS IN FEAR OF COHALAN

Justice Coleman Has Surrogate Playing Politics, Threatening Security of Boss.

The real reason back of the break between Surrogate Cohalan and Charles F. Murphy was that the political interests of the Cohalan element conflicted with those of the Boss, according to a statement by Justice Frank J. Coleman, Jr., Republican nominee for Surrogate, last night in a speech at the Eighteenth Assembly District Club house.

Cohalan was unknown until Murphy picked him up and made him, Justice Coleman said, disputing the Surrogate's statements at every point. There was great indignation when he was nominated and Cohalan sneered at it, the speaker said, and not until non-partisanship became profitable did he espouse it. "During his term of office he was a frequenter of Tammany Hall," Mr. Coleman continued. "He spoke with Murphy about procuring a raise in salary. He consulted Murphy. He tried to persuade Murphy to direct the Tammany Legislature to give the Surrogate more patronage by making the transfer of his appointees appointees of Cohalan's rather than of the State Comptroller."

"He was on such terms of friendly cooperation that he allowed Murphy asked him to 'get the New York World off his back' by a certain decision he was going to make. He had such regard for the Tammany leaders that he filled his court with them. He played politics in his appointments to such an extent that there was an open breach between him and his colleague, Surrogate Fowler."

"I wish I could tell you the real reason for the break between himself and Murphy. It certainly was not because he told Murphy to 'go to Hell.' Murphy is not a sensitive creature. He has probably often been told to 'go to Hell,' and it never gave rise to the enmity that exists between the two men. There is some real cause that neither of them has told about. The real reason in my mind was that the political ambitions of the Cohalan element in Tammany Hall conflicted with the security of the Boss. The fight between those two men is political, and it is sheer hypocrisy for Cohalan to plead or claim non-partisanship."

"Their row gives an inkling of internal conditions in Tammany. It was Cohalan says is true Murphy claims the right to make judicial decisions for the men he has put on the bench. Whether that is true or not, the boss apparently has a close working agreement with his creatures. The question

which the people must face is whether or not another of Murphy's nominees will be elected, or myself. Of course, I presume that no well informed person thinks Cohalan has a chance for election. He has not a ghost of a chance

"It is going to be a close fight between O'Brien and myself, and one good way to put Murphy in a position to advise as to Surrogate's decisions, is to vote for Cohalan, because that is how a vote for O'Brien."

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